GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4998
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2002
IMPORT OF RUBBER
CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Rubber import allowed on advance licence` appeared in the `Economic Times` dated November 20, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the Government have allowed further import of natural rubber on advance licence;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith purpose for which rubber import has allowed; and

(e) its likely impact on domestic rubber industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (e) : Yes, Sir. The Government is aware of the contents of the news - item which appeared in the `Economic Times` dated November 20, 2002. The Bombay High Court in its Judgement dated 31st October, 2002 in the Writ Petition No.808/2002 has quashed and set aside the Circulars and the Public Notice purporting to prohibit duty free import of natural rubber under advance licence. The Government has decided to appeal against this Judgement.